



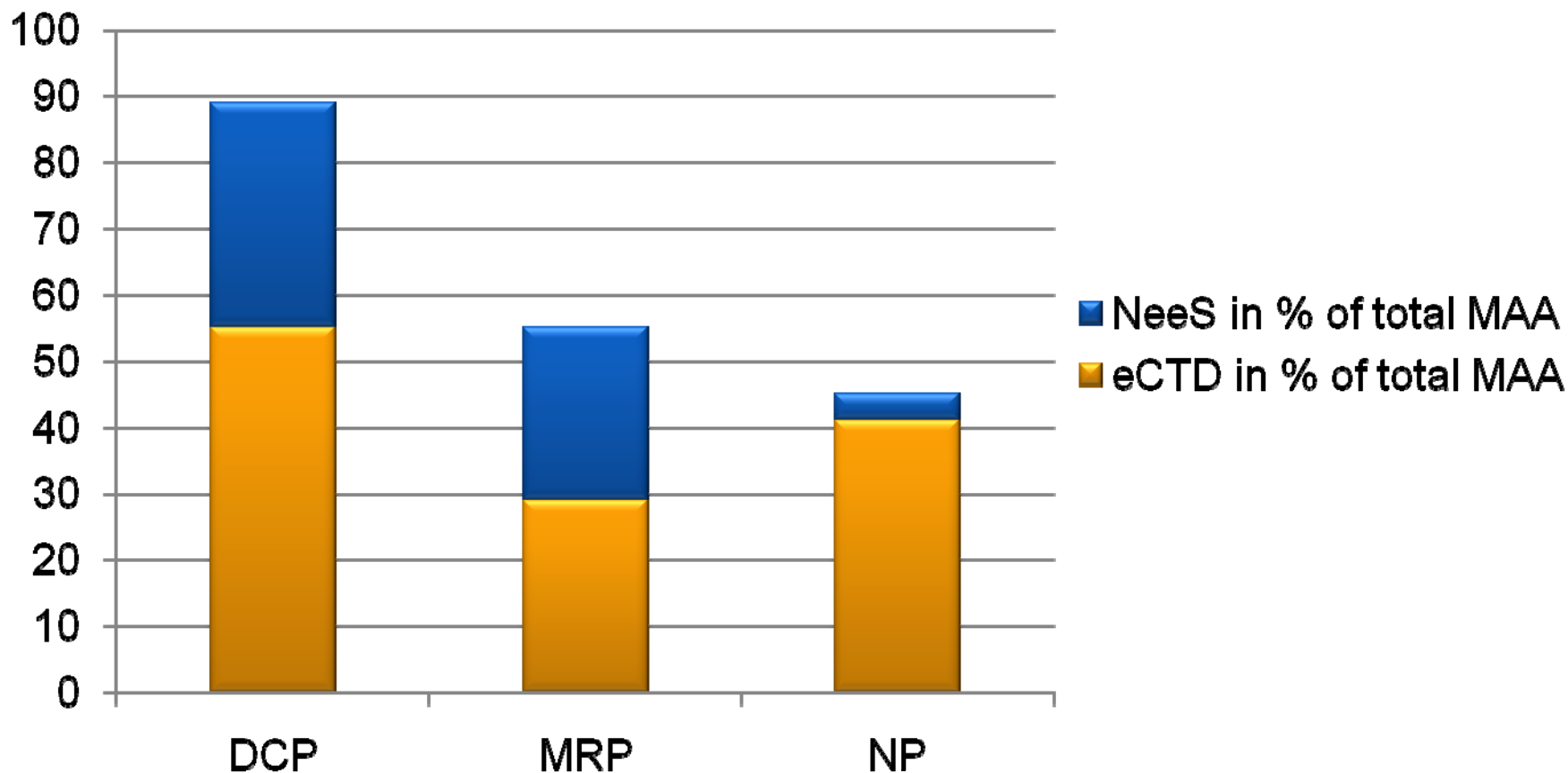
Electronic submissions in the EU

Karin Gröndahl

Head of Registration and Information Management

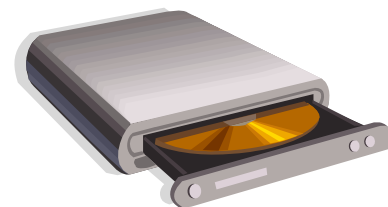
MPA, SWEDEN

New applications submitted to the MPA in e-only format (% of total MAA July - Dec 2010)



e-only in % of total applications: 222 in DCP, 58 in MRP, 27 in NP

Main problem in EU: Technical validation



- ☐ We have agreed and published validation criteria but different tools could anyway give different results
- ☐ The results could also be differently interpreted by different NCAs and different level of acceptance could apply
- ☐ The validation periods might be unnecessarily prolonged due to this and it takes a lot of resources both at industry and authorities
- ☐ Therefore, the TIGes Harmonisation group was given the responsibility to update the validation criteria for eCTD and NeeS to facilitate the validation

TIGes subgroup on harmonisation

A subgroup to TIGes (Telematics Implementation Group for electronic Submission)

The objective of this group is the facilitation of electronic submissions in Europe through the publication of common guidance documents which should meet the needs of both industry and Competent Authorities.



Scope: eCTD and NeeS

New validation criteria for eCTD and NeeS

- ❑ The aim was to write the criteria in a very clear way to prevent different interpretation by different validation tool vendors and also by different NCAs
- ❑ The new criteria were adopted by TIges in January 2011
- ❑ They will come into force by 1 September, i.e. all NCAs should use them for submissions received from that day

EMA eSubmission website

eSubmission

TIGes Documentation

TIGes Harmonised eCTD Guidance

- The TIGes has agreed on a [final draft of a harmonised guidance document for the submission of eCTD](#). This document is adopted by all MS represented in the TIGes, and applicants submitting any eCTD submission to any agency for any procedure should follow the recommendations laid out in the document. As this is a final draft, the guidance should be implemented, but as experience with eCTD is gained, comments are actively sought, with a view to updating the document as necessary. Comments on the guidance should be sent to eCTD@ema.europa.eu
- The BPG for the use of eCTD in MRP/DCP can be found [here](#)
- [Current Validation criteria v2.1](#) (valid until 31 August 2011)
- [eCTD New validation criteria v3.1](#) (effective 1 September 2011) - **NEW**
 - [Release Notes](#) - **NEW**
 - [Clarification Concerning the New Validation Criteria for eCTD](#) - **NEW**
 - [Implementation information](#) - **NEW**

TIGes Harmonised NeeS Guidance

- The TIGes has agreed on an updated version of the harmonised guidance document for the submission of non-eCTD electronic submissions ([NeeS](#)). This document is adopted by all MS represented in the TIGes, and applicants submitting any non-eCTD electronic submission to any agency for any procedure should follow the recommendations laid out in the document.. Please note that the document no longer applies to the European Medicines Agency after 1st January 2010 however, as from this date eCTD is the mandatory format for eSubmissions and NeeS are no longer accepted for this procedure. Comments on the guidance should be sent to eCTD@ema.europa.eu
- [Current validation criteria 1.0](#) (valid until 31 August 2011)
- [NeeS Validation Criteria v2.1](#) - (effective 1 September 2011) - **NEW**
 - [Release Notes](#) - **NEW**
 - [Implementation information](#) - **NEW**

New validation criteria

Number	Category	Validation Criterion	Type of check	Check can only be performed in context of other eCTDs in the lifecycle?	Comments
1,1	ICH DTD	The specified filename is used	P/F		File is named ich-ectd-3-2.dtd
1,2	ICH DTD	The correct placement is used	P/F		In the folder /XXXX/util/dtd
1,3	ICH DTD	A currently acceptable version of the DTD is used	P/F	Y	Currently acceptable with reference to any transition guidance (for example, not going back to an earlier version when a newer version has already been used for that eCTD)
1,4	ICH DTD	The valid version of the DTD is used (checksum matches the published value)	P/F		The checksum for v3.2 is 1d6f631cc6b6357f0f4fe378e5f79a27
2,1	ICH stylesheet	The specified filename is used	P/F		File is named ectd-2-0.xsl
2,2	ICH stylesheet	The correct placement is used	P/F		In the folder /XXXX/util/style
2,3	ICH stylesheet	A currently acceptable version of the stylesheet is used	P/F	Y	Currently acceptable with reference to any transition guidance (for example, not going back to an earlier version when a newer version has already been used for that eCTD)
2,4	ICH stylesheet	The valid version of the stylesheet is used (checksum matches the published value)	P/F		The checksum for v3.2 is 3a07a202455e954a2eb203c5bb443f77
3,1	EU M1 DTD	The specified filename is used	P/F		File is named eu-regional.dtd
3,2	EU M1 DTD	The correct placement is used	P/F		In the folder /XXXX/util/dtd
3,3	EU M1 DTD	A currently acceptable version of the DTD is used	P/F	Y	Currently acceptable with reference to any transition guidance (for example, not going back to an earlier version when a newer version has already been used for that eCTD)
3,4	EU M1 DTD	The valid version of the DTD is used (checksum matches the published value)	P/F		The checksum for v1.4 is 91654e96e3bafc5e89df7f892477b246
4,1	EU M1 leaf MOD file	The specified filename is used	P/F		File is named eu-leaf.mod
4,2	EU M1 leaf MOD file	The correct placement is used	P/F		In the folder /XXXX/util/dtd
4,3	EU M1 leaf MOD file	A currently acceptable version of the eu-leaf.mod file is used	P/F	Y	Currently acceptable with reference to any transition guidance (for example, not going back to an earlier version when a newer version has already been used for that eCTD)
4,4	EU M1 leaf MOD file	The valid version of the eu-leaf.mod file is used (checksum matches the published value)	P/F		The checksum for v1.4 is 2e976bc60658a964affa5026369a371e

New validation criteria

A	B	C	D	E	F
15,7	Files/Folders	Only valid characters are used in folder names	P/F		lower case characters a-z, digits 0-9 and hyphens are allowed (as documented in the ICH eCTD specification)
15,8	Files/Folders	There are no unreferenced files in M1, M2, M3, M4 and M5 folders	P/F		Including all subfolders within the m1-m5 folders but excluding 'util' folder and subfolders
15,9	Files/Folders	The only files in the sequence folder (/XXXX/...) are the index.xml and index-md5.txt	P/F		
15.10	Files/Folders	There are no empty folders	P/F		
15,11	Files/Folders	(If the procedure type in the envelope is "decentralised" or "mutual-recognition") The tracking table file is present in the correct location	P/F		The folder /XXXX/m1/eu/10-cover/common
15,12	Files/Folders	(If the procedure type in the envelope is "decentralised" or "mutual-recognition") The tracking table file is correctly	P/F		File is named common-cover-tracking.pdf or common-cover-tracking.xml
15.BP1	Files/Folders	Individual files do not exceed 100 MB in size	BP		Any deviation should always be reported by the validating tool.
15.BP2	Files/Folders	The recommended folder structure and folder names in the ICH and EU specifications are used	BP		Files larger than 100 MB should be avoided. If there is a Any deviation, including additional subfolders, should always be reported by the validating tool.
15.BP3	Files/Folders	The recommended file names from the ICH and EU specifications are used for all files	BP		Any deviation should always be reported by the validating tool. Note that the components of the file names in <i>italics</i> in Appendix 4 of the ICH eCTD specification are to be specified by the applicant (i.e. this is variable text). In EU Module 1 the variable (VAR) part of the file name can include hyphens. Note: a change request has been raised to allow hyphens in the Variable part of the file names Applicants using the eCTD for ASMF or for MAAs including an ASMF are reminded that the EU guidance recommends the use of "ap" and "rp" prefixes for content in the applicants part and restricted part, respectively. eCTD validation tools should accept these prefixes in Modules 1, 2 and 3. The CC code of the filename should not be checked against

New validation criteria

1	2	3	4	5	6	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
								m2													
								m2-toc.pdf													
								22-intro													
								introduction-var.pdf													
								23-qos													
								qos-var.pdf													
								OR													
								introduction-var.pdf													
								drug-substance-var.pdf													
								drug-product-var.pdf													
								appendices-var.pdf													
								regional-information-var.pdf													
								24-nonclin-over													
								nonclinical-overview-var.pdf													
								25-clin-over													
								clinical-overview-var.pdf													
								26-nonclin-sum													
								introduction-var.pdf													
								pharmacol-written-summary-var.pdf													
								pharmacol-tabulated-summary-var.pdf													
								pharmkin-written-summary-var.pdf													
								pharmkin-tabulated-summary-var.pdf													
								toxicology-written-summary-var.pdf													
								toxicology-tabulated-summary-var.pdf													
								27-clin-sum													
								summary-biopharm-var.pdf													
								summary-clin-pharm-var.pdf													
								summary-clin-efficacy-var.pdf													
								summary-clin-safety-var.pdf													
								literature-references-var.pdf													
								european-industrial-use.pdf													

What is new?

- ❑ Each criterion checks for a single item
- ❑ eCTD and NeeS criteria are aligned in wording where relevant, i.e. when applicable for both formats
- ❑ Two levels of tests;
 - **Pass / Fail** → ground for invalidation by authorities
 - **Best Practice** → should also be tested by applicant to facilitate for the assessment, but do not lead to invalidation

New validation criteria

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1,4	ICH DTD	The valid version of the DTD is used (checksum matches the published value)	P/F		The checksum for v3.2 is 1d6f631cc6b6357f0f4fe378e5f79a27
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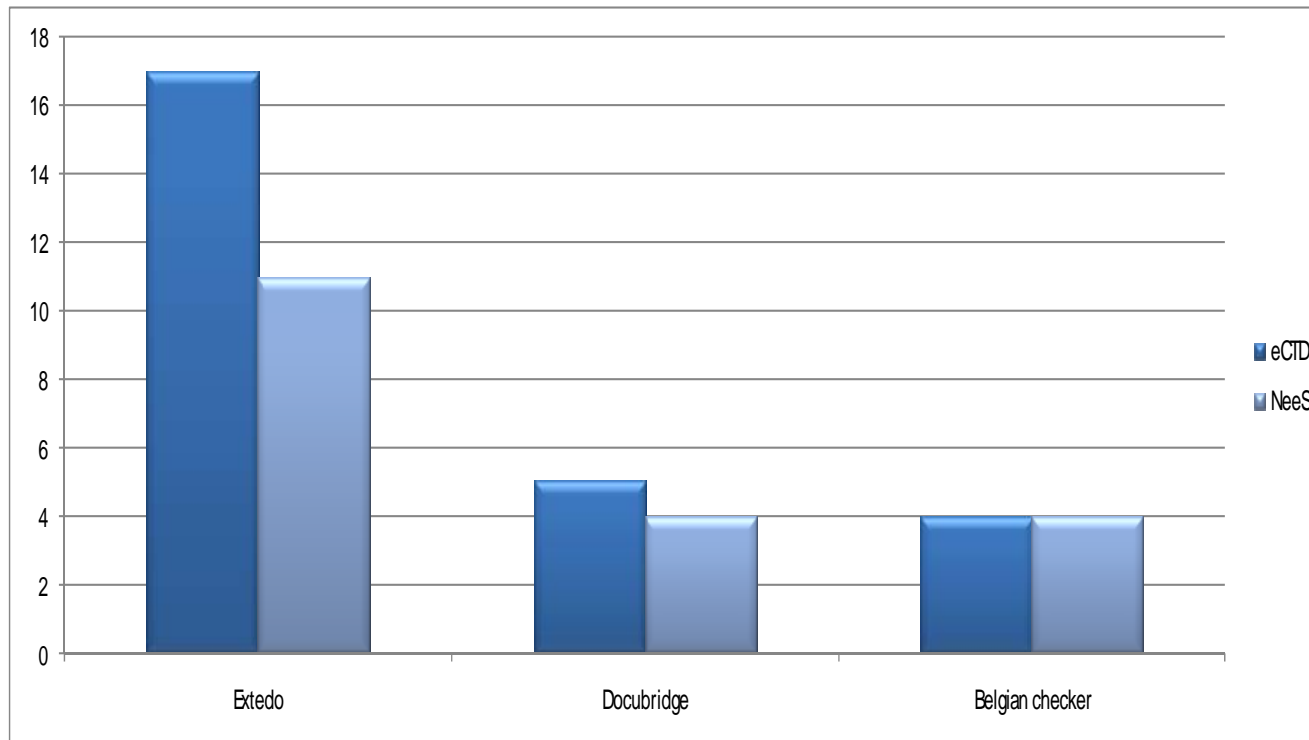
New validation criteria – please observe...

If it is not possible to perform the validation for a sequence in the presents of former submitted sequences (i.e. is done on the sequence in isolation), then the results of the tests for criteria marked with "Y" might not be reliable and this must be taken into account in the validation

(Now also clarified on the website.)



NCAs that had a validation tool for eCTDs Q3-4 2010 (from TIges survey)



**In total, 25 NCAs
had a validation
tool**

**15 of them rejected
technically invalid
applications**

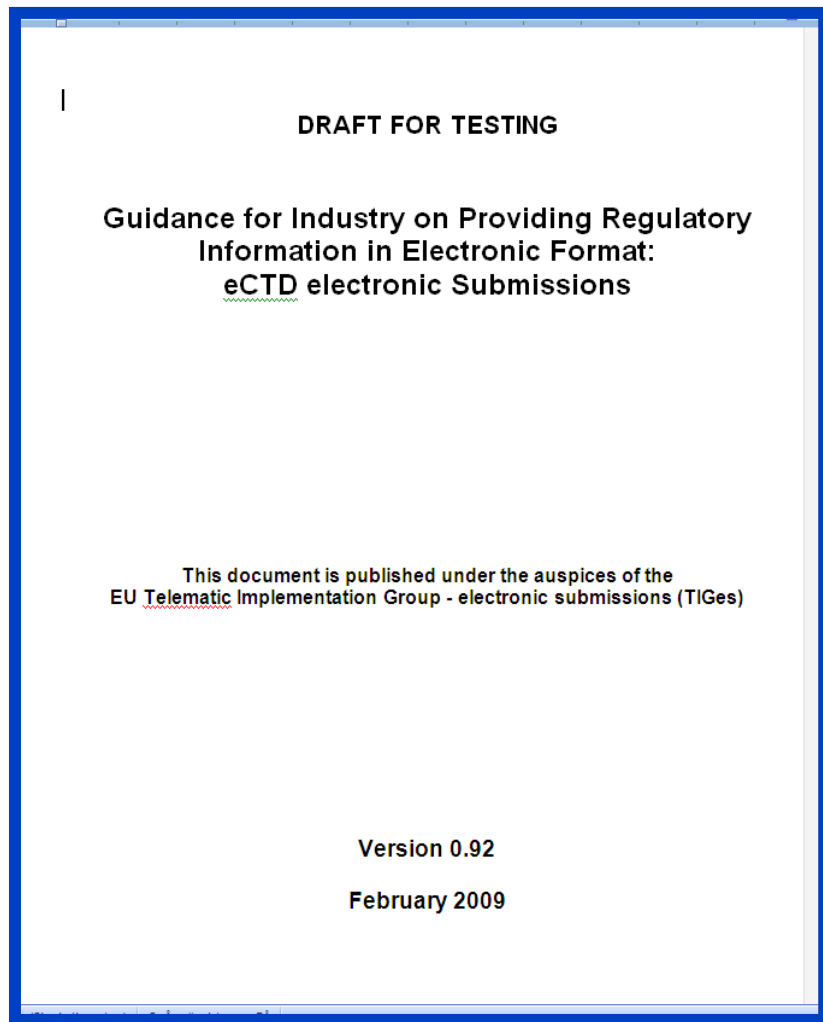
Technical validation process

The technical validation process will be further discussed by the authorities concerning:

- timelines for technical validation by authorities
- timelines for updates after technical invalidation
- the possibility of having a pre-step where RMS validates on behalf of all CMS within the MRP/DCP in the future

A validation training/workshop will be organised by members in the Harmonisation group in August for all MSs to learn and to harmonise the technical validation

EU eCTD Guidance



**First version published in 2009 at the
EMA eSubmission website
[http://esubmission.ema.europa.eu/tiges/
tigesdocuments.htm](http://esubmission.ema.europa.eu/tiges/tigesdocuments.htm)**

To be updated before September 2011

**Change Requests for the guidance
should be sent in accordance with the
TIGes published CR procedure**

eCTD EU guidance – major changes in next version

- All new things introduced with the new validation criteria are included in the guidance, except where the EU M1 eCTD specification is concerned.
(The specification will be updated by TIGes Interlinking/EMA)
- Things from published Q&As have been incorporated.
- **RTF, ZIP/TGZ not to be acceptable in EU eCTD**
- **Clarification on use of Related sequences**
- **Clarification on translations to be provided outside the eCTD (in a separate folder) also when requested at the time of submission of a variation type IA or IB**

eCTD EU guidance document – major changes

- Guidance of changing from NeeS or paper to eCTD
- **Guidance on different kind of Baselines, also "re-baselining" when really needed**
- File/folder naming - reference to the validation criteria
- Clarification on PDF version requirements
- **Introducing a *recommendation* for a Tracking table also for CP and NP**
- Clarified that "old", earlier submitted, sequences should not be again validated in a new MRP or a RUP

EU NeeS Guidance

**Guidance for Industry on Providing Regulatory
Information in Electronic Format:**

**Non-eCTD electronic Submissions (NeeS)
for human medicinal products**

**This document is published under the auspices of the
EU Telematics Implementation Group for electronic submissions (TIGes)**

**Version 2.0
March 2010**

**First version published 2008 at the EMA
eSubmission website**

**[http://esubmission.ema.europa.eu/tiges/
tigesdocuments.html](http://esubmission.ema.europa.eu/tiges/tigesdocuments.html)**

To be updated before September 2011

**Change Requests for the guidance
should be sent in accordance with the
TIGes published CR procedure**

NCA's eSubmission requirements



Co-ordination Group for Mutual Recognition and Decentralised Procedures – Human

<http://www.hma.eu/277.html>

enter search phrase search

[generate PDF-Version of this page](#)

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Heads of Agencies | CMD(h) | MRI Product Index | Directory

You are here: [Human Medicines](#) > [CMD\(h\)](#) > [Procedural Guidance](#) > eSubmissions

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Procedural Guidance
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USR
Art 61.3 Procedure
Consultation with target patient groups
Post Referral Phase
Pandemic Plan
CMDh-Referrals
Product Information
Advice from CMDh
Templates
CMD subgroups / working groups

- Further guidance on eSubmissions can be found on the EMA website under [eSubmission](#)

- CMDh Best Practice Guide on the use of eCTD in the MRP/DCP (June 2010)**
[Click here](#)

The aim of this guidance is to encourage the submission of eCTD applications in the MRP and DCP and, therefore, to enable all parties to gain more experience.

Any comments about this guidance in relation to experience from its use in application procedures should be sent to eCTD@ema.europa.eu, coordinated where possible by trade associations.

The changes in this revision 2 compared to revision 1 is in the Sequence Tracking Table examples (page 20) that now also include examples on how a change of RMS should be handled.

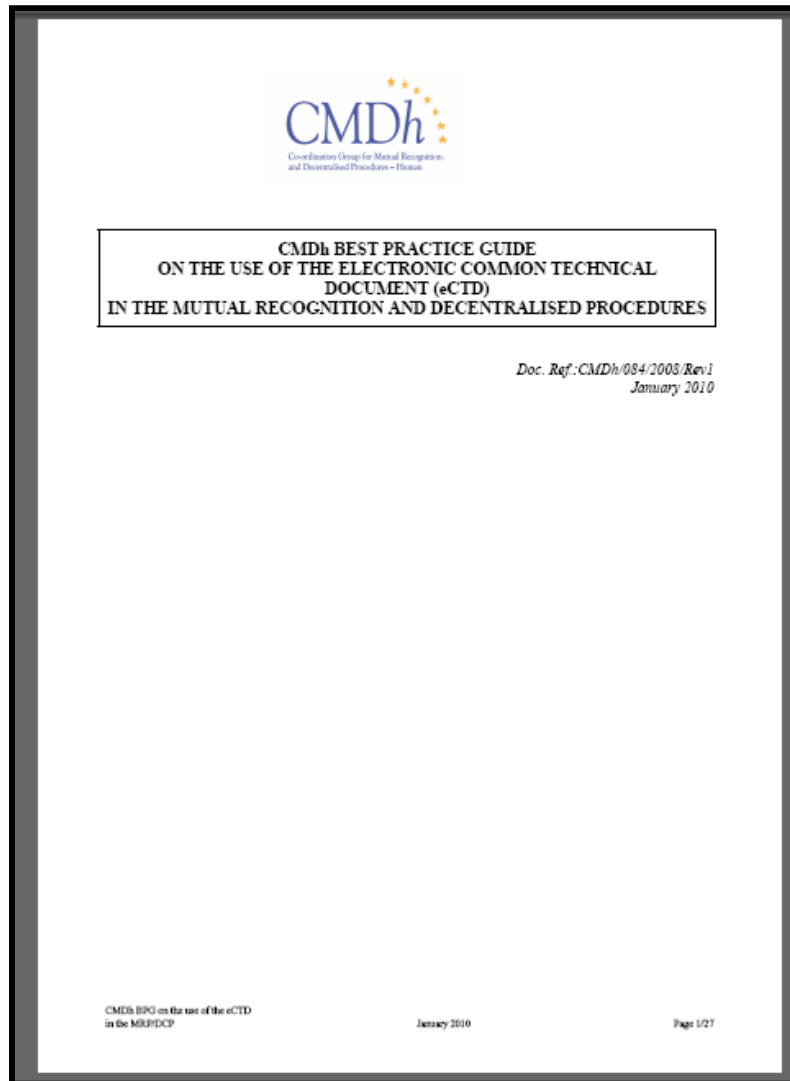
- Requirements on electronic submissions for New Applications within MRP, DCP or National procedures** (October 2010)
[Click here](#)
- Requirements on electronic submissions for Renewals & Variations within MRP, DCP or National procedures** (December 2010)
[Click here](#)
- Questions & Answers - The use of eCTD on MRP/DCP**
[Click here](#)

New Variation Regulation and eCTD

Questions & Answers covering issues of eCTD dossier submission and handling under the new variations regulation

[HERE](#)

BPG for eCTD in MRP/DCP



First version published in 2008 at the
CMDh eSubmission website
<http://www.hma.eu/277.html>

To be updated before September 2011

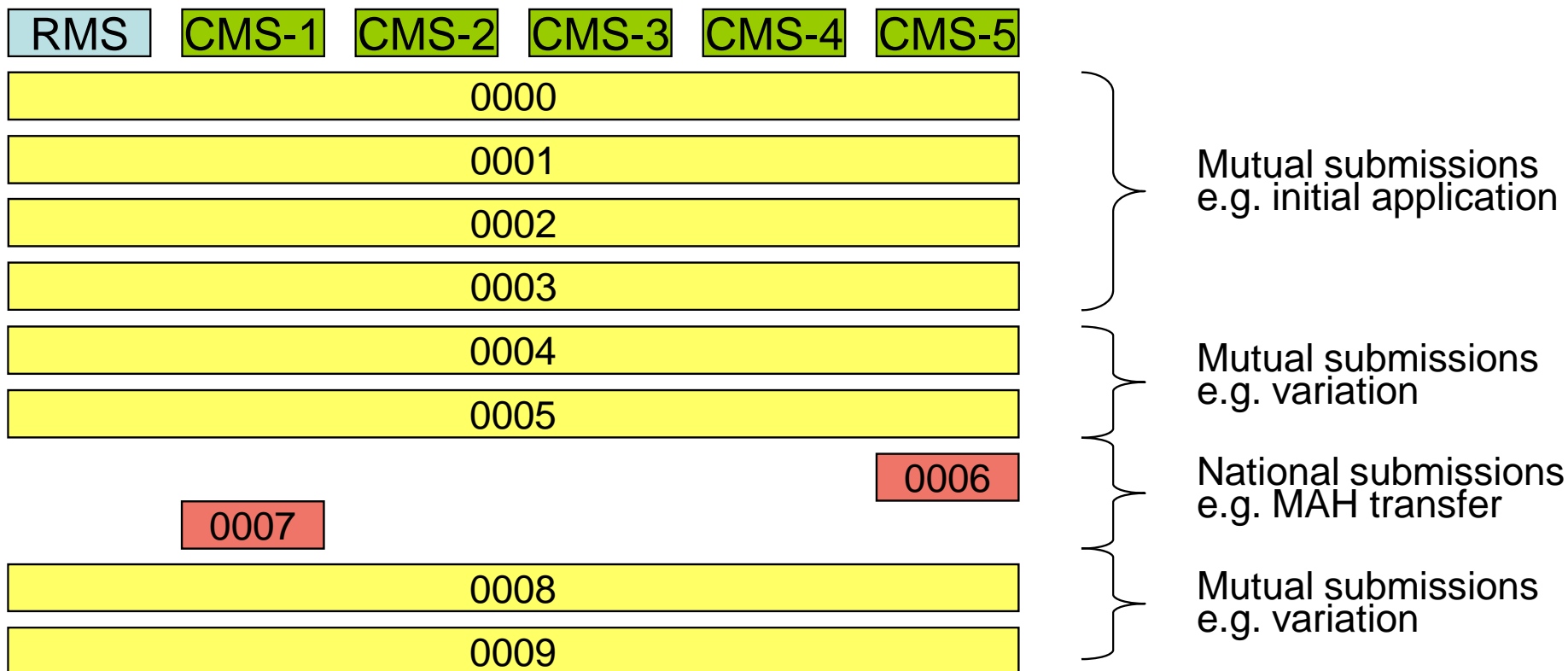
**Change Requests for the guidance
could be sent in accordance with the
TIGes published CR procedure**

Parallel National model

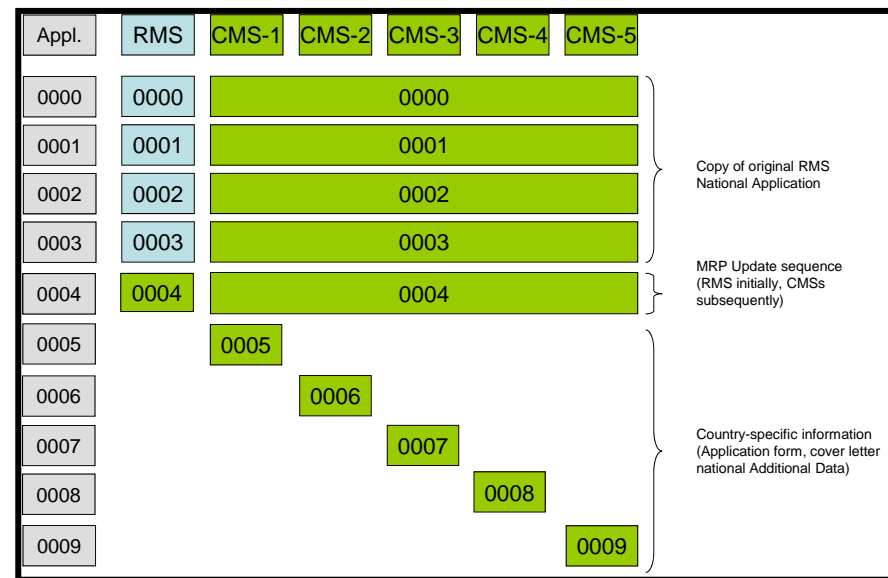
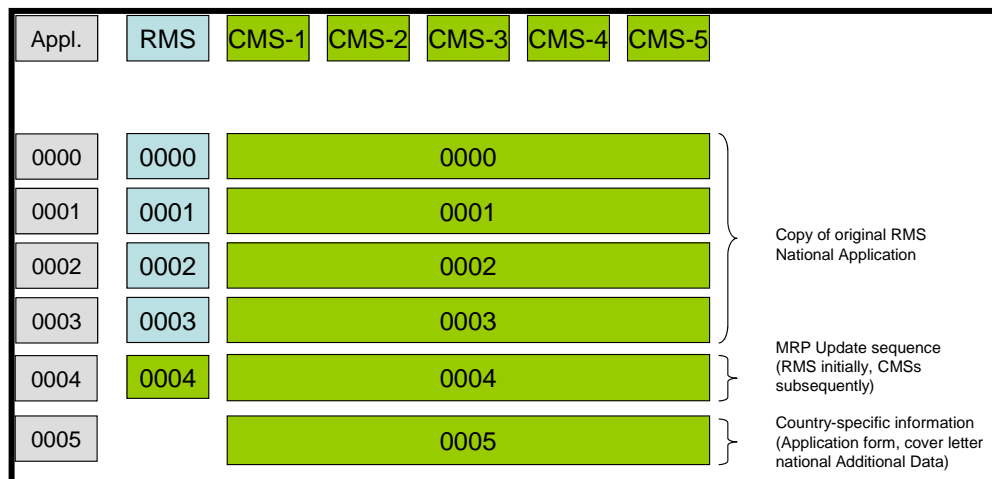
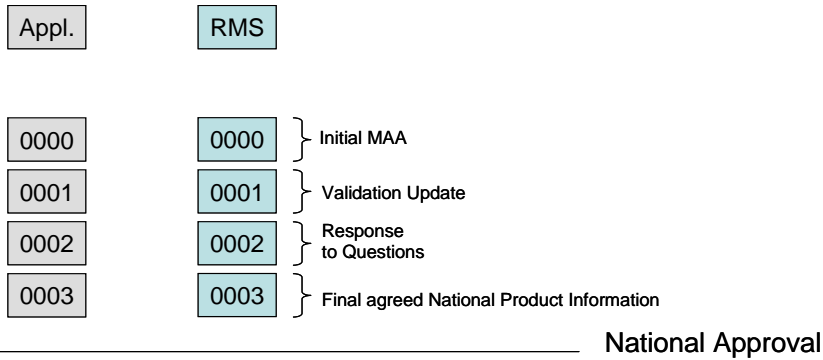
RMS	CMS-1	CMS-2	CMS-3	CMS-4	CMS-5	
0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Mutual submissions e.g. initial application
0001	0001	0001	0001	0001	0001	
0002	0002	0002	0002	0002	0002	
0003	0003	0003	0003	0003	0003	
0004	0004	0004	0004	0004	0004	Mutual submissions e.g. variation
0005	0005	0005	0005	0005	0005	
					0006	National submissions e.g. MAH transfer
0006						
0007	0006	0006	0006	0006	0007	Mutual submissions e.g. variation
0008	0007	0007	0007	0007	0008	

This model is only acceptable until 31 December 2011

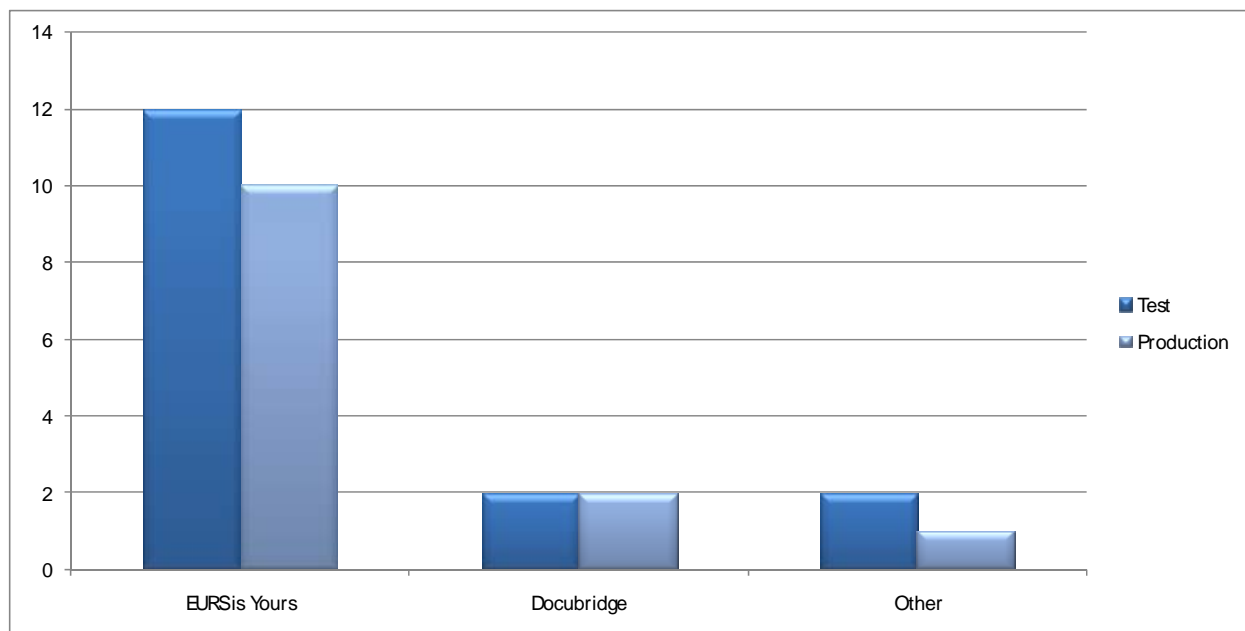
Comprehensive model



Start of MRP



NCAs having a review tool for eCTDs Q1-2 2009 (from *TI*Ges survey)

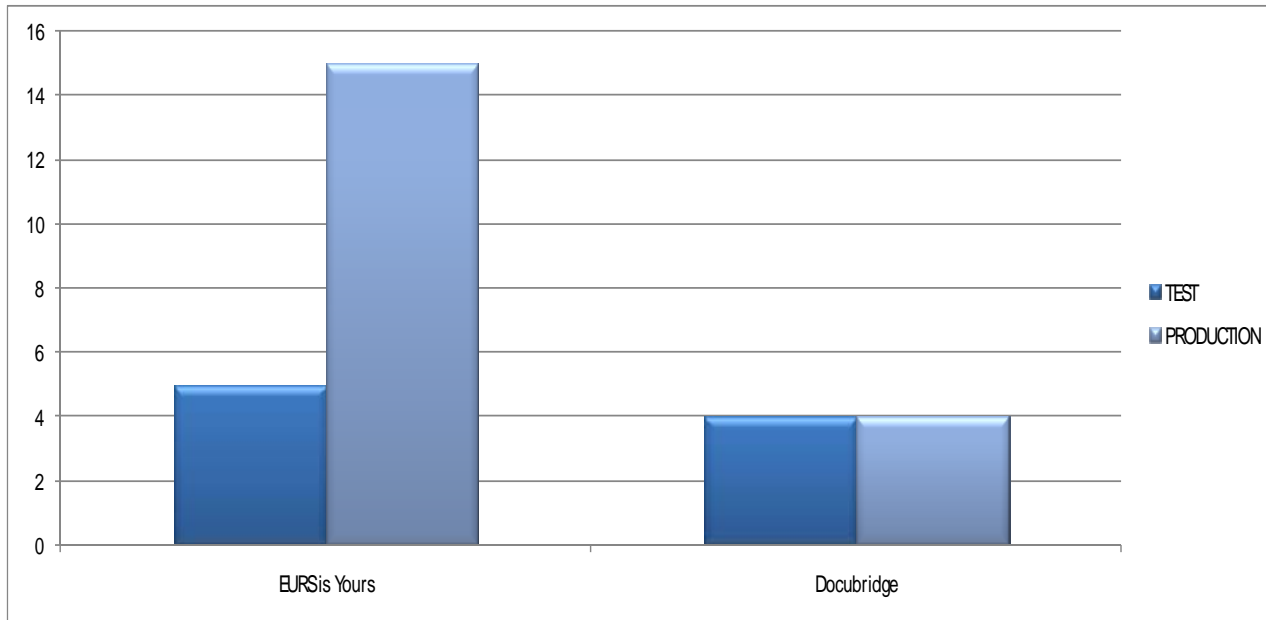


13 NCAs had a review tool in production and 16 had it in test

So, all EU MSs could not fully benefit from eCTDs

NCAs having a review tool for eCTDs Q3-4 2010

(from TIGes survey)



**In total, 24 NCAs
had a review tool**

**19 of them had it in
production**

So, still all EU MSs cannot fully benefit from eCTDs

If there is no review tool – how to use the eCTD?



m1



m2



m3



m4



m5



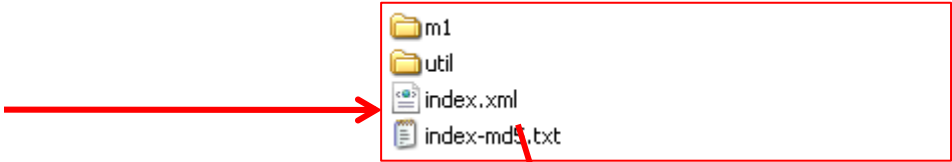
util



index
XML-dokument
291 kB



index-md5
Textdokument
1 kB



eCTD DTD version 3.2

- m1-administrative-information-and-prescribing-information
 - [eu-regional.xml](#) [new]

EU Module 1
DTD version 1.4

Envelope for UK	
Submission:	Type: Variation Type IA Mode: Grouping Number: IT/H/ [redacted]
Tracking Number(s):	IT/H/ [redacted] IT/H/ [redacted] IT/H/ [redacted]
Applicant:	[redacted]
Agency:	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, Market Towers (UK-MHRA)
Procedure:	Mutual Recognition Procedure (MRP)
Invented Name:	[redacted]
INN:	[redacted]
Sequence:	0006
Related Sequence:	0000
Submission Description:	Mutual Recognition variation
Envelope for SE	
Submission:	Type: Variation Type IA Mode: Grouping Number: [redacted]
Tracking Number(s):	IT/H/ [redacted] IT/H/ [redacted] IT/H/ [redacted]
Applicant:	[redacted]
Agency:	Sweden - Medical Products Agency (SE-MPA)
Procedure:	Mutual Recognition Procedure (MRP)
Invented Name:	[redacted]
INN:	[redacted]
Sequence:	0006
Related Sequence:	0000
Submission Description:	Mutual Recognition variation

scroll



1.0 Cover Letter

For BE:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For DK:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For FR:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For DE:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For IE:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For IT:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For LU:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For NL:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For PT:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For ES:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For SE:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For UK:

- [Cover letter May 11](#) (new)

For COMMON:

- [Tracking Table May 2011](#) (new)

1.2 Application Form

For COMMON:

- [English application form variation](#) (new)
- [Annex 1 ? Letter of authorisation for communication on behalf of the applicant](#) (new)

For ES:

- [Spanish application form grouped variation](#) (new)

1.3 Product Information

1.3.1 SPC, Labelling and Package Leaflet

1.3.2 Mock-up

SEQUENCE TABLE

CMSs							
	LU	BE	NL	FR	DE	IE	PT
Dec09	Dec09	Dec09	Dec09	Dec09	Dec09	Dec09	Dec09
Jun10	Jun10	Jun10	Jun10	Jun10	Jun10	Jun10	Jun10
Aug10	Aug10	Aug10	Aug10	Aug10	Aug10	Aug10	Aug10
Dec10	Dec10	Dec10	Dec10	Dec10	Dec10	Dec10	Dec10
Apr 11	Apr 11	Apr 11	Apr 11	Apr 11	Apr 11	Apr 11	Apr 11
May 11	May 11	May 11	May 11	May 11	May 11	May 11	May 11

- m1-administrative-information-and-prescribing-information
 - [eu-regional](#) [new]
- m2-common-technical-document-summaries
 - m2-3-quality-overall-summary
 - m2-3-introduction
 - [Introduction](#) [new]
 - m2-3-s-drug-substance [manufacturer: [REDACTED]]
 - [General Information](#) [new]
 - [Manufacture](#) [new]
 - [Characterisation](#) [new]
 - [Control of Drug Substance](#) [new]
 - [Reference Standards or Materials](#) [new]
 - [Container Closure System](#) [new]
 - [Stability](#) [new]
 - m2-3-p-drug-product [manufacturer: [REDACTED]]
 - [Description and Composition of the Drug Product](#) [new]
 - [Pharmaceutical Development](#) [new]
 - [Manufactures](#) [new]
 - [Control of Excipients](#) [new]
 - [Control of Drug Product](#) [new]
 - [Reference Standards or Materials](#) [new]

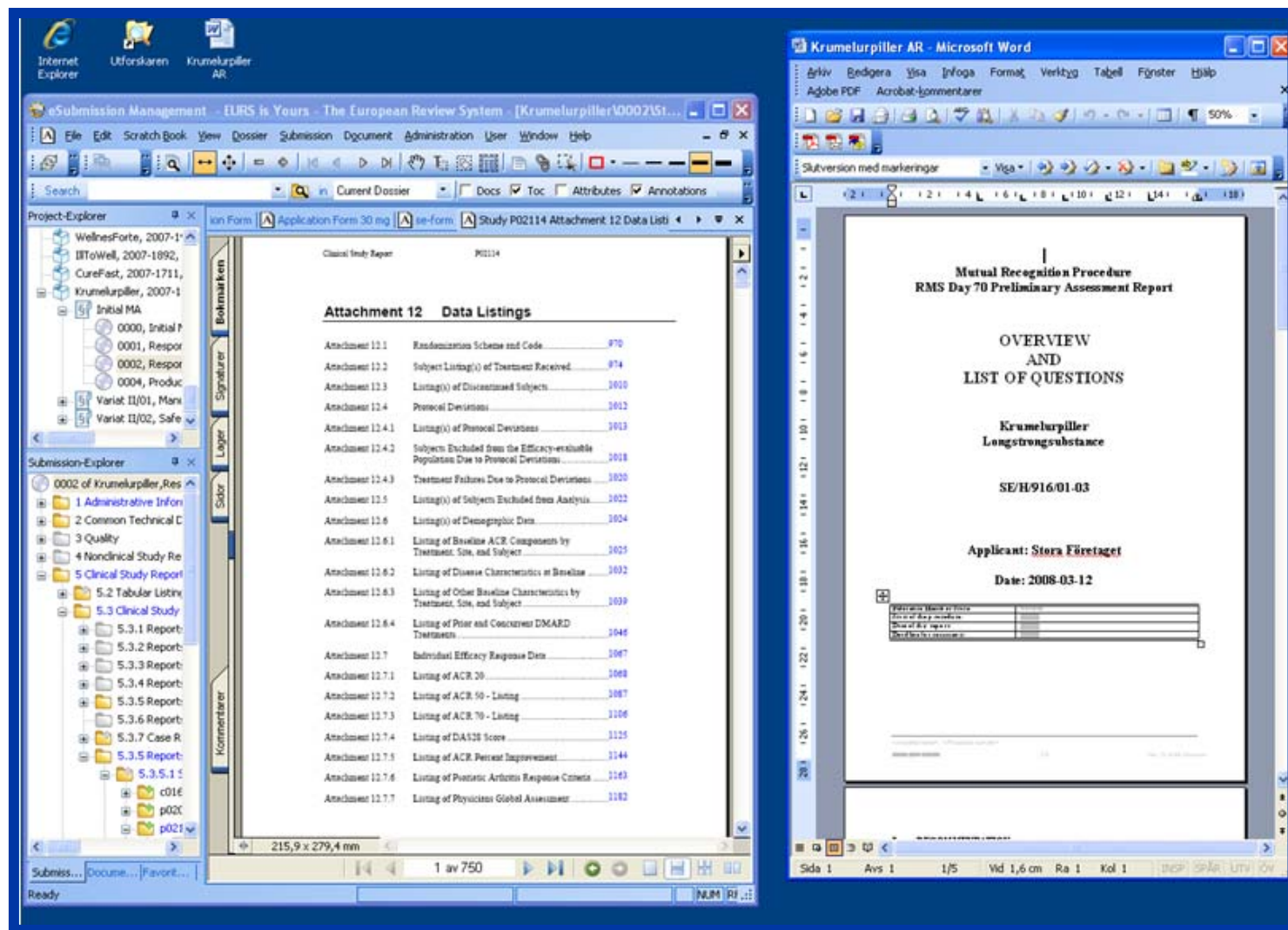
However, the index file lists all documentation as if it is there, even if it is physically provided in an earlier sequence.

If you use this sequence in isolation, you can't access the file here, but you get a hint where it is.



- m2-3-s-drug-substance [manufacturer: [REDACTED]]
 - m3-2-s-1-general-information
 - m3-2-s-1-1-nomenclature
 - [Nomenclature](#) - [REDACTED]
 - [Nomenclature](#) - [REDACTED]
 - [Nomenclature](#) - [REDACTED]
 - m3-2-s-1-2-structure
 - [Structure](#) - [REDACTED]
 - [Structure](#) - [REDACTED]
 - [Structure](#) - [REDACTED]

Use of a Review system



Use of a Review system

Submission-Explorer

- 0001 of testpill_eCTD,initial-maa
 - 0001: 1 Administrative Information and Prescrib
 - 0001: EU-envelope
 - 0001: Module 1 EU
 - 0001: 1.0 Cover letter
 - 0001: se
 - 0001: se-cover
 - 0001: 1.2 Application form
 - 0001: se
 - 0001: Application Form2
 - 0000: se-form
 - 0000: 1.3 Product Information

2.7 Test GSD “Gen

<<Project title>>

215,9 x 279,4 mm

Document Life Cycle			
	Operation	Title	Sequence
+	new	se-cover	0000
↻	replace	se-cover	0001



Thank you for your attention!

